

## NEW FISH RECORDS FOR QUEENSLAND.

BY T. C. MARSHALL.

THE following new fishes for Queensland are noted in order that the references may be included in the "Catalogue of the Fishes recorded from Queensland," by A. R. McCulloch and G. P. Whitley, which appears in this publication.

## FAMILY TRACHIPTERIDÆ.

TRACHIPTERUS JACKSONIENSIS (Ramsay).<sup>1</sup>

On the 5th November, 1921, a fine specimen of this Ribbon-fish was washed ashore on the main beach at Southport, Southern Queensland, and, thanks to the kindly interest of Mr. Jack O'May, was forwarded the same day to the Queensland Museum. The specimen, which was received in very fair condition, is six feet six inches in length (snout protracted).

Ramsay first described this species as a *Regalecus*, and in 1897 J. D. Ogilby dealt with its affinities when describing a sub-species, *Trachipterus jacksoniensis polystictus*, from Newcastle, New South Wales.<sup>1</sup>

In the Southport specimen the dorsal portion of the caudal fin ends distinctly in front of the termination of the body. It consists of six short almost adpressed rays, no one of which is as long as the shortest ray in the lengthy dorsal series. This caudal fin is obliquely directed backward at an angle of 120° to the dorsal line. The ventral portion is modified into three short, naked, divergent spines.

The specimen figured by McCoy as *Trachipterus tania*<sup>2</sup> (Bloch) and included by Ogilby in the synonymy of *T. jacksoniensis*, has four dark large spots on the body and a prominent ventral fin. In the Southport specimen the ventral fin is either entirely absent or so rudimentary as to be inconsequential, and the dark spots are lacking.

A few other features of special interest are noted. Behind the large eye (diameter 76 mm.) the head region is somewhat damaged. The dorsal and abdominal profiles are almost parallel in the anterior half of the body, the depth being approximately 225 mm. The dorsal fin, which appears to have been continuous, contains 176 rays. These are longest in the mid-dorsal region, where they attain a length of 92 mm. There are 14 rays in the pectoral fin, the maximum length being 89 mm.

<sup>1</sup> Ogilby, Proc. Linn. Soc. N.S.W., 1897, Vol. 22, p. 646-659.

<sup>2</sup> McCoy, Nat. Hist. Vic., Vol. II., pp. 83-85, Plate 122.

Owing to the absence of literature, I have been unable to compare our specimen with *Trachypterus semiophorus* of Bleeker, described from Amboine in 1868.<sup>3</sup>

When this Ribbon-fish was received at night by the Director (Mr. Heber Longman), its silvery surface was glowing with phosphorescence and it formed a remarkable object. In order to preserve it satisfactorily it was cut into two portions. Subsequently these were united and the specimen was placed on exhibition in formalin solution in a neatly-made cement tank with the exterior blackened and the interior enamelled white. As it was found impracticable to place a glass cover on this cement tank, the whole was enclosed in a large case with other specimens and casts. Except for the occasional need to replenish the formalin lost through evaporation, the specimen requires little attention and forms a popular exhibit.

#### FAMILY CEPOLIDÆ.

#### CEPOLA AUSTRALIS Ogilby.<sup>4</sup>

A fine example of this rare species was caught off Moreton Island, in July 1923, by Mr. E. Sanders, who kindly forwarded it to the Queensland Museum. It measures 15½ inches in total length.

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<sup>3</sup> Bleeker, Arch. Néerl. Sc. Nat., III., 1868, pp. 279-280.

<sup>4</sup> Ogilby, Proc. Linn. Soc. N.S.W., XXIV., 1899, p. 185; McCulloch, Biol. Res. Endeavour, II., 3, 1914, p. 109, Pl. 34, 1.